	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/625,853	OKUMURA ET AL.	
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit	
•••••	P Stanhan Dildina	2133	
	R. Stephen Dildine		
The MAILING DATE of this communication app All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT F of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.31	of (OR REMAINS) CLOSED III or other appropriate community RIGHTS. This application is s and MPEP 1308.	nication will be mailed in due course.	THIS initiative
1. A This communication is responsive to Amendment of 23 O	<u>october 2006</u> .		
2. ☑ The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-15,18-34 and 37-44</u> .			
 3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority t a) All b) Some* c) None of the: 		or (f).	
1 X Certified copies of the priority documents have	ve been received.	- Na	
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have	ve been received in Application	on No	m the
Copies of the certified copies of the priority d	ocuments have been receive	d in this national stage application not	11 1110
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* Certified copies not received:	•		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDON THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	INICIAL OF this application.	·	
4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be sub INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gi	mitted. Note the attached EX ives reason(s) why the oath o	AMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE r declaration is deficient.	OF
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") m	ust be submitted.		
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftspe	erson's Patent Drawing Revie	w (PTO-948) attached	
1) hereto or 2) To Paper No./Mail Date	<u>_</u> .		
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examine Paper No./Mail Date			
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFF	if the ficader accounting to the		
DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the department attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT	posit of BIOLOGICAL MAT	ERIAL must be submitted. Note the	e ,
Attachment(s)	5. Notice of	nformal Patent Application	
 Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) □ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-94) 	8) 6. \square Interview	Summary (PTO-413),	
	Paper No	o./Mail Date s Amendment/Comment	
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),		•	
Paper No./Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Depose	sit 8. ⊠ Examiner	s Statement of Reasons for Allowance	е
of Biological Material	9. 🗌 Other	<u></u> .	
		·	

Claims 1-15, 18-34 and 37-44 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Okamura et al. (200/30043939) claims the determination of a frequency distribution of a path metric difference to evaluate the quality of a signal in contrast to claims 29-34, 37-40 and 43-44 of this application which recite the use of a path metric difference (not the frequency distribution thereof) to determine signal quality. All of applicant's claims recite determination of the difference between a correct path and an error path which is not shown in any other cited reference.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Stephen Dildine whose telephone number is (571) 272-3820. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 5:30 am to 2:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Albert Decady can be reached on (571) 272-3819. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

R. Stephen Dildine

R. STEPHEN DILDINE PRIMARY EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100 R. Stephen Dildine Primary Examiner Art Unit 2133 Continuation of Attachment(s) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date: 31 August 2006 & 24 July 2006.